Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 013580 TOSEC 010056
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O: SGOLDSMITH
APPROVED BY S/S-O: SGOLDSMITH
----------045233 181726Z /50
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 013580 TOSEC 010056

NODIS
WHITE HOUSE FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 833 ACTION SECSTATE JAN 18.

QUOTE S E C R E T MOSCOW 0833

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT, UR, US
SUBJECT: PNG OF DONALD KURSCH

REF: (A) STATE 11051, (B) MOSCOW 753

1. AT 1530 HOURS JANUARY 18 POLCOUNSELOR CALLED ON DEPUTY CHIEF OF MFA'S USA DIVISION FEDOSEYEV TO PROTEST RECENT PHOTOGRAPHIC HARASSMENT OF AN EMBASSY OFFICER. (SEPTEL)

2. WHEN THAT CONVERSATION FINISHED FEDOSEYEV ASKED WHETHER KURSCH HAD DEPARTED. POLCOUNSELOR REPLIED HE HAD NOT. FEDOSEYEV ASKED WHETHER KURSCH WAS PLANNING TO LEAVE
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IMMEDIATELY. POLCOUNSELOR REPLIED THAT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES HE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.

3. FEDOSEYEV SAID HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO STATE THAT "WE EXPECT HIM TO LEAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IF NOT IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS THEN IN FORTY-EIGHT." POLCOUNSELOR ASKED WHETHER THE MFA HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT NOT ONLY THE JANUARY 14 DISCUSSION

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BETWEEN SECRETARY VANCE AND DOBRYNIN BUT ALSO THE
SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR SHULMAN AND VASEV,
IN WHICH LATER CONVERSATION THE POSSIBILITY WAS RAISED OF
PRESENTING FURTHER EVIDENCE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF AVDYUNIN.
FEDOSEYEV REPLYING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, SAID THE TWO CASES HAD
NO CONNECTION AND STATED THAT THE SOVIET DECISION TO DECLARE
KURSCH PERSONNA NON GRATA WAS IRREVERSIBLE, "REGARDLESS OF
THE OUTCOME IN WASHINGTON, EVIDENCE OR NO EVIDENCE."

4. POLCOUNSELOR SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE EXTENDED DISCUSSIONS
WHICH HAD BEEN HELD AT HIGH LEVELS IN WASHINGTON HE WOULD
COMMENT ONLY BRIEFLY: (A) KURSCH WAS COMPLETELY INNOCENT OF THE
SOVIET ACCUSATIONS MADE AGAINST HIM WHICH WERE UNFOUNDED,
BASELESS AND TOTALLY UNWARRANTED AND (B) WE CONSIDER THE
SOVIET ACTION TAKEN AGAINST KURSCH TO BE OUTRAGEOUS.

5. WE ARE PROCEEDING TO ARRANGE FOR KURSCH TO TRAVEL TO
FRANKFURT JANUARY 20 ACCORDING TO ARRANGEMENTS DESCRIBED IN
PARA 4, MOSCOW 753. FURTHER COMMENT WILL FOLLOW SEPTEL.
MATLOCK
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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